

a witness. As the King approached, the knights and leading citizens went out to meet him, and brought him with every mark of honour and joy to the Capuan gate. There the archbishop and clergy of the city met him with hymns and songs of praise, after which they formed a procession before him, while the King rode in with four noble knights holding his bridle, and four others forming a guard, until the episcopal palace was reached.

The city was full of rejoicing crowds; one would have sworn, says the writer with a hint at Duke Sergius and Robert of Capua, already forgotten by a fickle people, that no emperor, king, or prince was ever received into Naples with such honours and rejoicings.¹

A naive tale is told by the same Falco in which Roger exhibits that curiosity on matters of science which was so native to the King. After a thorough visitation of the city, he summoned the Neapolitan magnates, and discussed with them the liberties of the city; at the end of which conference he made a grant to each of the knights of five *madia* of land and five villeins. When Naples was all asleep and unsuspecting, the King emerged from his quarters, and set surveyors to measure

the whole circumference of the walls
from without,,
and so to discover the extent of the
city, the result
of which proved that Naples was 2363
paces in
circumference. The next morning as
the crowds
pressed round him, Roger revealed
the jest; he

¹ **Falco, 1140.**